

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 27 of page 18 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 11 is a simplified block diagram of the functional architecture and internal construction of an exemplary transceiver block, indicated generally at 200, such as transceiver blocks 102 and 104 ~~404~~ of FIG. 10. Since the illustrative transceiver application relates to Gigabit Ethernet transmission, the transceiver will be referred to as the "Gigabit transceiver". For ease of illustration and description, FIG. 11 shows only one of the four 250 Mb/s constituent transceivers which are operating simultaneously (termed herein 4-D operation). However, since the operation of the four constituent transceivers are necessarily interrelated, certain blocks and signal lines in the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 11 perform four-dimensional operations and carry four-dimensional (4-D) signals, respectively. By 4-D, it is meant that the data from the four constituent transceivers are used simultaneously. In order to clarify signal relationships in FIG. 11, thin lines correspond to 1-dimensional functions or signals (i.e., relating to only a single constituent transceiver), and thick lines correspond to 4-D functions or signals (relating to all four constituent transceivers).